

The Miracles Of Jesus

The Rebuked Fever

(Mt 8:14-15)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning,
 - a. Greetings...
2. Series of lessons on “The Miracles Of Jesus.”
 - a. Last week we examined “The Synagogue’s Unclean Spirit.”
 - i. **Mk 1:21-28**¹
 - b. This week we will be looking into “The Rebuked Fever.”
 - i. **Mt 8:14-15**
3. The miracle upon Peter’s mother-in-law is fascinating to say the least.
 - a. There are so many things to discuss here from these short two verses yet we will stick with only a few.
4. With this in mind let us look to this lesson.

I. Peter’s Mother-In-Law’s Fever Rebuked

- A. Jesus and His disciples had been worshipping at the synagogue so it was the Sabbath
 1. Jesus & the disciples then went to Simon & Andrew’s home.
 - i. The disciples with Jesus: Simon i.e. Peter, Andrew, James, and John.
 2. It appears Peter’s home was very close to the synagogue.
- B. Simon’s mother-in-law was ill with a high fever
 1. Only Luke’s account points to the “high” fever.
 - i. This no doubt relates to Luke being a physician.
 2. Now due to her severe illness it says they talked with Jesus to help her.
- C. Jesus heals the woman
 1. Jesus, after rebuking the fever, takes the woman’s hand and raises her up.
 - i. She is so completely healed she is able to serve them at once.

II. The Lesson

- A. Peter’s mother-in-law proves the Catholic doctrine of celibacy false
 1. Notice if you ask a Catholic today if they prevent marriage to anyone they will say, “we do no such thing, we allow any and every one to marry.”
 - i. They will then say any priest can marry but priest take vows of celibacy to keep themselves pure as priests.
 - a. Council of Nicea 325 A.D. “after ordination a priest could not marry.”²
 - b. In 385 A.D. Pope Siricius left his wife to become Pope.³
 - c. Council of Trent 1545-1569 A.D. states that celibacy and virginity are superior to marriage.⁴
 2. Let it be said here that it is impossible for Peter to have been the first Pope because of this alone.

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

² A Brief History of Celibacy in the Catholic Church (<http://goo.gl/iaM6NC>)

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

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- i. Notice in order for a man to become Pope he has to have been a priest first and worked his way up the ranks.
 - a. At no point in the Catholic denomination do they permit higher ranking men to have wives.
 1. Let me be clear when they say “anyone can marry” they are not saying “anyone can marry and stay in their current position.”
 3. Peter was married without a doubt.
 - i. In our text here we can clearly see Peter was married.
 - a. Now Catholics will try and say, Peter’s wife must have already been dead by now because she is not mentioned.
 - b. He had not taken the role of “head apostle” yet and thus when this happens he is single and celibate from his wife’s death on.
 1. They even try and manipulate Paul’s words.
 - i. **I Co 9:5**
 - ii. We can easily prove Peter was married at the time of our text because we can prove he was married many years later.
 - a. In Peter’s first letter he write this...
 1. **I Pt 5:1** “So I exhort the elders among you, **as a fellow elder** and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed” (emphasis mine)
 2. **I Ti 3:2** “Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the **husband of one wife**, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach” (emphasis mine)
 - b. Peter could not have been an elder in the Lord’s church without fitting into the qualification of being the husband of one wife.
 1. Once again they have text manipulation and distortion to try and get around this but their efforts are clearly seen as bogus and false.
- B. Jesus’ rebuking of the fever does not suggest evil was within or around her
1. Some have tried to suggest that because Jesus rebuked the fever that it was either a demon or that evil was in some way causing the fever.
 - i. Martin G. Collins writes, “‘Rebuked’ in this verse is the same word used in Luke 4:35 and Mark 1:25, where Jesus ‘rebuked’ the demon during the exorcism in the synagogue. The word means “to censure or admonish.” When Jesus rebuked something, evil was present, and His example instructs us that evil must be condemned if real healing is to occur.”⁵
 2. There is no doubt that demons, during this time, did enter and take control of some people.
 - i. However just because this is a fact does not mean that every illness or physical ailment was brought on by evil.
 - a. **Jn 9:2-3**

⁵ The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Healing Peter’s Mother-in-Law (<http://goo.gl/kZ3vLU>)

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3. Jesus rebuked the fever because it was to be corrected.
 - i. The term rebuke means to condemn toward correction.
 - a. Jesus was simply stopping and correcting the effects of the high fever.
 1. **Lk 8:24**
- C. Jesus' complete healing shows what true miracles were
 1. Today we hear so many people talk about miracles and claim just about everything as a miracle that most people today do not even know what a true miracle was.
 - i. This account given us by God demonstrates the difference between modern day healers and the miracles of the Bible.
 2. When Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law she was completely healed.
 - i. She immediately got up and began to serve Jesus and the disciples.
 - a. Most people today after a bout with an illness that has caused a fever take a few days to get their strength back.
 - b. However this was not the case here, the woman had instant and full strength back.
 3. Outside of the fact that the Bible clearly teaches the cessation of miracles after the completion of the Bible and death of the apostles we can see that modern day miracles are not miracles at all but rather simply put they are emotional experiences.

CONCLUSION

1. Brethren, I pray you have been encourage and uplifted by looking at and studying this short but magnificent text on Peter's mother-in-law's rebuked fever.
 - a. I pray it strengthens you in your resolve that Jesus is truly the Christ.
 - b. I pray it strengthens your resolve to live for Jesus because He is the Christ.
2. Question: Are you maturing in your walk with God by growing closer to God by getting know Him better through His Word?
 - a. If so continue therein and grow thereby.
 - b. If not why not?
3. Invitation
 - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent and confess your transgression before God so He can forgive you and bear fruit of repentance by dedicating the rest of your life for Him.
 - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."
 - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required for you to become a child of God.
 - i. Hear/Study God's Word **Rom 10:17**
 - ii. Have Faith In Jesus **Heb 11:6; Jn 3:16; Jn 14:15**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:3**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32**
 - v. Obey The Gospel **I Cor 15:1-4; Rom 6:3-5**